



#4 3627

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Kazuo HORIKAWA

Serial Number: 09/990,270

Filed: November 23, 2001

For: LOCK LEVER DEVICE FOR WORKING
IMPLEMENT DRIVE CONTROL SYSTEM
OF CONSTRUCTION MACHINE VEHICLE

RECEIVED
MAR 22 2002
GROUP 3600

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER
37 CFR §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 20, 2002

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 applicant hereby notifies the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO-1449 form and which the Examiner may deem relevant to the patentability of the claims in the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of an Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for the listed foreign language documents, an English abstract is

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

u to Japanese 4-30003. For the other two Japanese documents, applicant submits the following concise statements:

Japanese Utility Model Laid-Open No. 62-12664

The drive uncontrollable locking means of the working implement drive control system includes a solenoid circuit ON/OFF selector valve in a fluid circuit connecting a pilot pressure control valve, a pilot fluid pressure source and a limit switch. The operation of the locking lever is transmitted to the limit switch, for switching the action of the solenoid circuit ON/OFF selector valve thereby to block the fluid circuit, so that the pilot fluid flow from the pilot fluid pressure source may be locked to block the flow of the pilot pressure fluid from the pilot pressure control valve to a working implement actuator control valve of the pilot pressure activated type, thereby to lock the drive control of the working implement.

Japanese Utility Model Laid-Open No. 4-97950

The drive uncontrollable locking means of the working implement drive control system includes a circuit ON/OFF selector valve in a fluid circuit connecting a pilot pressure control valve and a pilot fluid pressure source. The operation of the locking lever of the circuit ON/OFF selector valve for switching the action of the circuit ON/OFF selector valve thereby to block the fluid circuit, so that the pilot fluid flow from the pilot fluid pressure source may be locked to block the flow of the pilot pressure fluid from the pilot pressure control valve to a working implement actuator control valve of the pilot

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

activated type, thereby to lock the drive control of the working implement.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial or otherwise mark one copy of forms PTO-1449 and forward the same to the applicants indicating that the documents listed thereon have been considered.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee therefor, as well as any deficiency in the payment of the required fee(s) or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 22-0256.

Respectfully submitted,
VARNDELL & VARNDELL, PLLC
(Formerly Varndell Legal Group)



R. Eugene Varndell, Jr.
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 29,728

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

GROUP 3600

Atty. Case No. VX012386
106-A S. Columbus St.
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 683-9730

\\V:\VDOCS\W_DOCS\MAR02\PO-152-2386 IDS.DOC

BEST AVAILABLE COPY